

Filed for intro on 02/02/95  
House Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

Senate Bill No.SB0393  
By Burks

AN ACT to designate a certain segment of State Route 52 in Macon County as the "Ned Ray McWherter Parkway".

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the State of Tennessee should create a lasting tribute to a Tennessean who has contributed so significantly to the progress of this great state; and

WHEREAS, Governor Ned McWherter is one such remarkable public servant, a voice of integrity in state and national political circles; and

WHEREAS, born in the Weakley County town of Palmersville, Ned McWherter has provided unprecedented leadership for Tennessee as its 46th governor; and

WHEREAS, Governor McWherter's distinguished career in state government began in 1968 when he won a seat in the Tennessee House of Representatives. His down-to-earth business sense and commitment to progress quickly earned him the respect of his legislative peers. After just two terms, he was elected Speaker of the House, a position he held longer than anyone in Tennessee history; and

WHEREAS, as Speaker, Governor McWherter was instrumental in re-establishing the General Assembly as an independent branch of Tennessee government; he prided himself on

continuing Tennessee's tradition of careful fiscal management and worked closely with four governors during his legislative career to find creative solutions to issues facing Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Governor McWherter's desire to keep Tennessee moving forward led him to seek the governorship, which he won by more than 100,000 votes; and

WHEREAS, throughout his stellar service as governor of this great state, Governor McWherter has stressed strict financial management, elimination of bureaucratic red tape, and finding creative solutions to the problems facing Tennessee. He has also brought innovative management styles to state government, allowing him to expand services to the public, make major new investments in education and economic development, and keep the state's budget balanced, without increasing taxes; and

WHEREAS, since Governor McWherter took office, Tennessee has enjoyed a period of record economic growth and development, emerging as a national leader in the creation of jobs; and

WHEREAS, with the Governor's emphasis on education reform to create a highly trained Tennessee work force for the year 2000 and beyond, Tennessee has become known throughout the world as a premier location for new industry and business; and

WHEREAS, Governor McWherter has been an unremitting force in efforts to open up communities for new jobs; he has also begun the first state-funded program in Tennessee to help depressed communities build the facilities they need to attract industry and jobs; and

WHEREAS, he has continued Tennessee's leadership in education reform by emphasizing competitive pay for classroom teachers, reductions in the state's dropout rate, and creation of the innovative Literacy 2000 Program to give all Tennesseans the chance to learn reading and writing skills; and

WHEREAS, Governor McWherter has increased state financial commitments to higher education through his education reform bill, while expanding opportunities for excellence in scientific research, technology, health sciences and the arts; and

WHEREAS, his name is synonymous with hard work, devotion, professionalism, innovation, creativity, equanimity and positive thinking; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lafayette has benefited greatly from the state's construction of the State Route 52 Bypass in that fair city; and

WHEREAS, Governor McWherter was instrumental in the planning and construction of the State Route 52 Bypass; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Lafayette wish to honor Governor McWherter upon his magnanimous efforts on behalf of their fair city, and this Body always endeavors to respect the wishes of citizens relative to local matters whenever it is feasible to do so; now, therefore, BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, that segment of State Route 52 in Macon County from the eastern corporate limits of the City of Lafayette to the western corporate limits of the City of Red Boiling Springs is hereby designated as the "Ned Ray McWherter Parkway" in recognition of his meritorious and peerless career in public service and his unswerving commitment to the continued growth and prosperity of Tennessee.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such segment of State Route 52 in Macon County as the "Ned Ray McWherter Parkway".

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.